

Stankowski et al.  
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Amendment

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6. (Original) The process of Claim 5 wherein said depth filter segments are selected from the group consisting of a wound depth filter comprising nonwoven fibers, a stack of sheets wherein each sheet comprises nonwoven fibers and a fibrous mass of nonwoven polymeric fibers secured together by mechanical entanglement of the fibers.

7. (Original) The process of Claim 5 wherein said slurry is selected from the group consisting of a silica-based slurry, an alumina-based slurry, a ceria-based slurry, a diamond-based slurry and a  $\text{MnO}_2$ -based slurry, a cell broth, a photoresist chemical, a fermentation liquid, blood, a blood fraction and a transgenic liquid.

8. (Original) The process of Claim 5 wherein said slurry is selected from the group consisting of a silica-based slurry, an alumina-based slurry, a ceria-based slurry, a diamond-based slurry and a  $\text{MnO}_2$ -based slurry.

9. (Original) The process of Claim 5 wherein said slurry is selected from the group consisting of a cell broth, a photoresist chemical, a fermentation liquid, blood, a blood fraction and a transgenic liquid.

#### REMARKS

Claims 5-9 have been rejected under 35 USC 112 since the use of the phrase "said cartridge being free of an open void volume which causes separation of particles from said slurry upstream of a top surface of said depth filter in contact with said" is not understood. As pointed out by the Examiner, the volume through which arrow 31 passes is, prior to use of the filtration cartridge, an open void volume upstream of "said depth filter". However, when the slurry to be filtered is introduced into the filtration cartridge, air is forced from the cartridge and replaced by the slurry. Since the inlet to the first filter segment, 20 (Fig. 1) has the same area and configuration of the first-contacted surface of the first filter segment, no air is entrapped between the slurry and the first contacted surface of the first filter segment. When utilizing a configuration wherein an inlet is smaller